

WASHINGTON.

—Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1853.

THE AFRICANIZATION PLOT.

We give below an article from the *London Times* respecting the famous scheme, lately imputed by our official paper, the *Union*, to the British Government, for "Africanizing Cuba," an allegation brought forward with such formality and show of circumstance as to give it a semi-official air, and command a degree of attention which the story would not have received on mere editorial authority. The *Times* treats the story and the *Union* both with deserved ridicule, which we should not so much care about were the ridicule confined to them, but our Government comes in for a share of it, as the presumed participator or author of the groundless imputation. But if the *Times* has found matter for ridicule in the original promulgation of the plot, its ridicule will be still keener when it shall have seen the *Union's* subsequent evasions, contradictions, and justifications on the subject. One day it re-affirms the story; the next day it wavers and appears to give up; then it denies that it has "abandoned the charge" that the British Government is responsible to this country and the world for the scheme of Africanization of Cuba, which is admitted on all hands to be in the progress of consummation; next it calls on Mr. Crampton and the British Government to disclaim the scheme; then says that it will not believe that they do; that if England disavows it it will not credit her until she says "by her acts" her belief in its reality; and so on, and so forth, until in its number of yesterday the *Union* shifts its ground altogether, by charging the plot upon Spain herself, and calling on England and France to prevent it. The *Union* finds in some Spanish paper a paragraph to the effect that the United States shall never possess Cuba, and that it "must be either Spanish or African." The *Union* chooses to regard this as a grand national governmental declaration, not a mere editorial dictum, and thereupon exclaims: "Here is proof conclusive that Spain proposes to Africanize Cuba; and the plan for so doing is the apprentice system. The question now again recurs, will England and France permit this outrage upon humanity to be perpetrated by Spain? Does any body suppose that Spain would avow such a scheme unless she had assurances of support from one or both of these Powers? * * * If Spain declares that Cuba shall be either Spanish or African, we say that Cuba will be either Spanish or Anglo-American, never African."

While, however, we give the article of the *Times* as an act of justice towards a public question placed in a false light by the insinuation of our Government paper, we cannot admit it into our columns without dissenting from the insulting remark which the article applies to the Government of Spain. The *Times* asserts that "Spain never keeps her word where her interest is the other way." Such sweeping imputations are generally unjust, and in this instance, according to our impression, is particularly so. We believe that the injurious remark is not more applicable to the Spanish Government than to any other, if, indeed, it be not far less so than to many others.

FROM THE LONDON TIMES OF NOVEMBER 9.

One of the most extraordinary features of the American character is that their vaunted and undoubted shrewdness wholly deserts them when they come to estimate what they are to expect from another country. The child that asks of every thing "will it bite?" and the savage who sees a snare in the peaceful appliances of civilized life, are not more liable to error than the "cutest" man in the universe when he looks at the machine he has left on British soil. At this moment the Government of the United States, as we are gravely informed by the *Washington Union*, is possessed with the idea that we are about to Anglicize Cuba by an insinuation of African apprentices on the condition that slavery shall cease in that island at the end of fifty years. What a fearful project to be foisted on the long-sighted politicians of England! The hold we should have over these apprentices and their masters, the means of recovering them out of the jaws and very abyss of slavery at the end of ten years, and the security for the total abolition of slavery half a century hence, when every statesman now living in England, Spain, and the United States will be mouldering in its grave, these are considerations which hardly occur to the rapid American mind. It seems that, in order to abolish slavery when we shall not live to see it abolished, we are to originate a tremendous aggravation of its horrors. The apprenticeship which we could not manage in our own colonies, and which we were obliged to forego, we are to try again in a colony not our own, under laws of which we know only that they are bad, and under the conduct of the most merciless and unscrupulous slave masters in the world. A new experiment requires that all the conditions should be as much as possible under our control. This is hardly an experiment, for it is a proved thing that negro apprenticeship is an impossible ambiguity, which must soon resolve itself into either slavery or freedom. Yet there are politicians, and even statesmen, at Washington who think it possible that we should reproduce an old absurdity under the most desperate conditions, and embarrass ourselves with a tried and exploded measure, in the hope that a European State which has long lost the sentiment of honor will keep its word when we are all dead and gone.

If these American statesmen would only just amuse, not their sober reason, but their imagination, in its very silliest mood, by devising some attempt to carry out the scheme, they could hardly fail to laugh at their own simplicity in believing it. The apprentices once landed and mired in the slave population of Cuba, who is to be able ten years hence to distinguish the man whose lease of his fetters and stripes is on the point of expiring from the fortunate possessor of an inalienable freedom! There are American judges, indeed, who might be able to tell, by the color of the skin or some other recumbent token, how deep the bondage had sunk into the soul, and whether he still survived in the bruised and emaciated form; but, to the unpracticed eye of British consuls and sea captains, one branded, scarred, waled, toothless, and mutilated nigger would be much the same as another, and it would be impossible to resist the mass of evidence that would be adduced to prove that every man brought into the nation was a native of that happy soil. One difference, if it is true, might be admitted. The negro who evidently had but a short lease of his life might be presented to us as the remains of the ten years' apprentice. We might see all the hearty and strong still working under the lash as the heirs of perpetual slavery, while the consumptive and crippled were resigned to our charge with lists and indentures denoting that they had come to Cuba ten years before under the protection of British cruisers. So would British honor and Spanish economy be at once satisfied. The effect of such a system on the condition of its subjects needs hardly a second thought. Then comes the glorious prospect of the emancipation of Cuba in the year of grace 1903. Where and whose will Cuba itself be at that time no man can tell. It may be American; it may be a black republic; it may be a nest of pirates and a source of society, in tardy retribution of the blood that has so long trickled unavowed on its soil. Fifty years hence who shall say what Spain itself may be? If it remains what it is now, it will not keep its word, for that

it never does where its interest is the other way. If Spain is to learn political morality in the interval, that can only be by changes in other respects wholly beyond our baffled anticipations. But, if we cannot rely either on Spain as it is or on Spain as it may be, what becomes of an undertaking to come off half a century hence? And what American in his senses would invest a dollar in the chance of so "unreliable" a state fulfilling its promises at so distant and interminable an era?

But the Americans are grave on the subject. Their indignation is roused at this new mode of British interference, and their patriotic importation of Africans, just the very thing which every American capitalist interested in Cuba would have all things done. The President in Cuba would have all things done. The President and his Cabinet are prepared to meet this invasion of the American "continent," in which it appears Cuba is situated, with "firmness and courage." And we are assured, in American phrase, "that their action will be the result of the most deliberate and patriotic convictions." Nay, more; Gen. Pierce has been abused a good deal of late, and wanted a turn, so now we are told, "in view of a crisis so momentous to the heart of the patriot President, must swell with emotions of national pride to know that, with the exception of a few contemptible fanatics, he will be backed and sustained to the last extremity in his determination to follow the dictates of humanity, to guard the constitutional rights of all the States, to preserve the integrity of the Federal Union, and to resist the aggressions of the British monarchy, by the united voice and energies of a people who are jealous of their honor, who are informed of their rights, and who are ready to stake life, liberty, and property on the preservation of both."

There we must stop. We are fairly breathless with the pace at which the fervid patriotism and outraged morality of the much-injured Americans have carried us. We cannot go so far as the appeal to an overruling Providence which winds up this burst of holy indignation. But, when the noble beast has lashed its tail to weariness, and has exhausted its strength, what is it all about? About a scheme which the writer himself intimates would probably cost us £20,000,000, the immediate working of which would be an immense addition to the negroes at work in Cuba, and the only compensation of which would be a promise to be fulfilled in a remote and impenetrable futurity. Softly, Brother Jonathan. Plausibility has its proprieties, if not its duties. Have method even in your madness. Show some reason for these furious menaces. Do not wield the lash without some shadow of a cause. The next time the heart of the President, the soul of his Cabinet, the bile of his journalists, and the fingers' ends of the community at large are excited to this terrible degree, let it be for something credible, possible, or at least conceivable. Though we have not the happiness and honor of being Americans, yet, as a nation, we know the value of money, and can measure the practicability of schemes. We don't attempt to cross the Atlantic in a punch-bowl, much less is it likely that we should ever trust negro apprentices to Cuban planters or emancipation to Spanish honor. If not as good or as wise as we might be, we yet know what we are about, which could hardly be said of us if we had ever entertained for one moment such a project as that which has thrown the President, the Cabinet, the press, and the people of the United States into a frenzy of virtuous indignation.

As an instance of the confusion of ideas and contradictions spread through the Democratic party, we observe several of their papers congratulating themselves on the anticipated election of Mr. McDONALD, of Georgia, to the Senate, and the defeat of Mr. COBB, as auspicious to the Union—the former having presided at the Nashville Convention, the latter having been one of the most efficient friends of the compromise and the preservation of the Union in the Congress of 1850-51. *Tempora mutantur.*

THE VERMONT SENATOR.—Twenty-four ballots have now taken place in the House of Representatives of Vermont for a Senator of the United States. The last ballot stood 82 for Kellogg, Dem.; 70 for Collamer, Whig; and 10 each for Brainerd and Shafter, Free-soilers—99 votes being necessary for a choice. The Senate has also had a number of ballots, without indicating any particular choice, a majority of the votes being "scattering." In the latter body the Whigs have a majority, and as a Senator must be elected by the concurrent vote of both Houses, there is at present but little probability of effecting an election. The Whig ascendancy in the Senate has no doubt prevented the consummation of a bargain between the Democrats and Free-soilers to elect a Free-soil Senator, which it is supposed was the inducement held out to the Free-soilers to obtain their support of the Democratic candidates for the principal State offices.

NEW MEXICAN NEWSPAPER.

We have received from Albuquerque, New Mexico, the first number of the "Amigo del Pais, or Friend of the Country," published in that village by Messrs. R. H. WRIGHTMAN and D. V. WHITING, the former being the late Delegate from New Mexico to Congress. It supported the election of Senor GALLAGHER, Delegate elect. In the prospectus of the paper we find the following, where, in perusing its full duty to the Territory, so far as permitted by the legislative authority:

"By the Amigo del Pais, Democratic principles will be upheld and maintained. The conservative and law-abiding people of New Mexico are eminently Democratic. The late Whig Administration, by its disregard of the rights, feelings, and interests of this people, has fixed the politics of New Mexico as Democratic."

"THE GREAT REPUBLIC."—This monster ship left Boston on Friday afternoon for New York in tow of the steamer R. B. Forbes, where it is said she will load for Liverpool. We have already given a description of this splendid vessel. The Boston Transcript says she is owned solely by her builder, DONALD MCKAY, and cost upwards of \$300,000. Her stowage capacity is 6,000 tons. She will require a crew of one hundred first-class seamen and fifty boys. With her chief and under officers her force will number one hundred and seventy-five or one hundred and eighty. She will carry 48,000 barrels of flour in her hold and between decks, and have room left.

THE MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY OF THE BANK OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.—On the 21st of October, it will be remembered, a bag containing bills to the amount of \$37,810 was very mysteriously stolen from behind the counter of the Bank of the State of New York. This most singular robbery was committed while the porter, into whose care the money was given, had turned his back for a moment. The Toledo (Ohio) Blade of the 21st instant furnishes some clue to the thieves. Robert Stevenson, alias James Wilson, alias Richard Turk, and Henry Roberts, alias Henry Baker, alias George Wood, were arrested on the previous Tuesday for attempting to rob a returned Californian in the streets of Toledo. On searching the rascals a package of bills on the Bank of the State of New York, amounting to about \$190, were found on one, and skeleton keys, a box of jewelry, and a loaded revolver on the other. Suspensions arose, and the Mayor held the prisoners in custody until witnesses from New York City could arrive.

On the 15th three men were examined before the Mayor, when Mr. C. B. Van Wyck, teller in the Bank of the State of New York, identified the bills found on the prisoners as bearing the same private mark as those stolen. The Mayor said that the facts proved against the prisoners were positively suspicious, and such as to render their guilt probable. He could see his duty in no other light than to send the prisoners back to New York, the place of jurisdiction, and should issue his warrant accordingly.

The prisoners had a large amount of stolen money in their possession, and their arrest may lead to the recovery of some of the lost funds.

COLLISION AND LOSS OF TWO LIVES.—On Thanksgiving morning the steamer Bay State, on her way from Fall River to New York, ran into a sloop, the Sylph, and sunk her. The crew of the sloop, four in number, were thrown overboard by the violence of the collision, and passed under the Bay State. The steamer hove to, and life-preservers, blankets, &c., were thrown overboard for the water to cling to; and the small boats were immediately launched, and succeeded in picking up alive the captain and mate. The other two were drowned.

GOOD NEWS, IF TRUE.

It being at variance with what we had understood to be the fact, we were not a little concerned to find it stated in a respectable Washington letter, a few days ago, that all hope of a satisfactory arrangement with the British Government regarding the Fisheries was at an end, and that serious trouble might be expected to grow out of that exciting question. This discouraging statement rendered more welcome the following announcement in the letter of the intelligent writer *Jon*, in Tuesday's *Baltimore Sun*:

"The treaty with England in respect to the fisheries and reciprocity has been agreed upon by Mr. MAYOR and Mr. CRAMPTON. The project was sent to England in October last, and the approval of the British Government is expected. The treaty is of the most liberal and satisfactory character. It concedes to the British colonies all that they desire in return for the absolute freedom of the fisheries to the United States. It gives a registry to colonial vessels, and admits them fully to our coasting trade. It provides also for the free interchange of all agricultural products, and the free admission of our agricultural implements into the colonies. It is believed that all difficulties are overcome."

COMMON SENSE VERSUS JACOBINISM.

The sound sentiment recently exhibited by two of the States of the Union (Massachusetts and Rhode Island) in rejecting radical and mischievous innovations in their organic law is very encouraging in these days of reckless progression. It is a subject of gratification to every friend of order and good government when it is seen that the conservative principle is still predominant in the mass of the people of any of the States of our Union. Our readers will recollect that but a short time ago a Convention was called in Massachusetts with a view to form a new Constitution for that Commonwealth. In the election of delegates to the Convention, by evil combinations of certain factions among the people, the "destructives" prevailed, and a majority of the Convention agreed upon a Constitution embracing within its provisions some of the most pernicious of "progressive" notions. Among these was one which was worthy of a place in Jack Cade's system of government, namely, to constitute jurors judges of the law as well as of the facts, the effect of which would have been in a short time to render an independent judiciary altogether unnecessary. This was one only of the innovations attempted in the new Constitution; others tending to increase and promote the influence of a factious spirit and to prevent all counteraction on the part of the conservative power were introduced. But the system thus concocted was submitted to the ratification of the people, and, being subjected to their careful scrutiny, they saw that it was at variance with the wise lessons of their fathers and their own good sense, disorganizing in its principles, and dangerous to good government, and they rejected it.

In the State of Rhode Island, as our readers are aware, the triumph of conservatism has, under similar circumstances, been even more signal than in the sister State of Massachusetts. May it be perpetual.

NEBRASKA TERRITORY.—The people in Western Iowa are stirring themselves on the subject of a speedy organization of Nebraska Territory. On the 7th instant a large meeting of the citizens of three counties was held at Sidney, over which Wm. C. MEANS, of Page county, presided. The resolutions of the meeting were "an early organization of the Nebraska Territory, and the extinguishment of the Indian title therein." They also recommended 36½° for the southern boundary and 42° for the northern; the Missouri river on the east, and the Rocky Mountains on the west. A general Convention of citizens, without respect to party, is announced to be held at St. Joseph's on the 8th of January, to further the organization and settlement of Nebraska without delay.

MISSISSIPPI ELECTION.—In the Natchez Courier we find aggregate returns from thirty-five counties of that State, showing the result of the late election. In these the full vote for Governor stands thus: For ROGERS, Whig, 17,200; for MCRAE, 18,868. In the same counties, at the last gubernatorial contest, Foote received 18,323, and Davis 17,440; and at the late Presidential election these counties gave Scott 12,190, Pierce 16,564. The Courier has also reported majorities from six other counties, which raise McRae's majority to 1,907. The next State Senate will stand—11 Whigs, 1 Union Dem., and 20 State-Rights Dem. To the House, thus far, 37 Whigs and Union Dem., and 44 State-Rights Dem. are elected from counties which, in 1851, elected 58 Union men and 23 State-Rights Dem.

The "blast from the South" in opposition to the acquisition and annexation of the Sandwich Islands shows the favorers of the scheme that they are not to have it all their own way in that quarter of the country. In fact, there will be more conservatism exhibited from the South, by-and-by, than the "progressives" now anticipate. The South will not be dragged into every wild project because it suits the purposes of those who call themselves Democrats at the North.—*Alexandria Gazette.*

FROM CHINA.

The London correspondent of a mercantile house of the city of New York writes as follows:

"We have our usual private telegraphic intelligence from Trieste, anticipatory of the overland mail. Canton remained undisturbed, and much business was doing. At Shanghai business was at a stand, owing to the city having been taken possession of by a party of rebels, unconnected, it is said, with the insurgents at Tientsin, being rather a band of Triads, or the short-knife society. They seized the Tientsin, who afterwards escaped and plundered the public treasury to the amount of four sacs of dollars. They did not molest the foreign settlement."

FROM AUSTRALIA.

By the ship *Bavaria* we have news from Melbourne to the 26th and from Sydney to the 20th August.

The *Bavaria* brings the first shipment direct of gold from Australia, and is, we believe, the first ship that has come direct to New York from the port of Melbourne. The amount of specie is \$100,000.

Great excitement existed at the Mount Alexander, Bendigo, and other gold fields in relation to the License Fee exacted by Government from the gold diggers. The diggers demand a reduction of the fee from thirty to ten shillings. The Governor, in answer to their petition, stated that the reduction was a question for the Legislative Council to determine. It was believed, however, that the rate of the proposition would greatly depend upon the will of the Executive. His opinion would seem to be adverse to the desired change, since he institutes an elaborate comparison between the revenues and expenditures of the gold fields, showing that so far the expenditures of 1853 had exceeded the revenue a hundred thousand pounds.—*New York Mirror.*

THE FEVER ON THE RIO GRANDE.—At Matamoros and Brownsville, on the 17th instant, the epidemic was still sweeping off the inhabitants in alarming numbers, the Mexican population especially. Having no faith in medicine, no sooner are they taken ill than they resort to the mummeries of charms and ceremonies. The soldiers and officers of the garrison at Brownsville had not been exempt. Many of the former had died and two of the latter—Col. Webster and Lieut. Duggan. The garrison was at last accounts but about 350 strong.

THE LATE ADMINISTRATION.

Public men are judged of in this free country under such strong party bias that those who discharge high trusts, indeed any trusts, have in general to be content with scant justice from their political adversaries. It is remarkable, indeed—to pursue the thought a step further—that in a country where, from the nature of its institutions, great diversity of opinion must always exist, there is less toleration felt or practised than in any other country where opinion is at all free. There is, however, an occasional exception, in which prejudice forgets its office, and public merit receives from reluctant adversaries some modicum of praise. Such an exception we are glad to think was exemplified in the Administration of President FILLMORE. He so discharged his high office—so wisely and justly—that he was rewarded with the commendation of numbers of the high-minded and disinterested among his political opponents, and he laid down his honors with probably a larger share of the public approbation than has fallen to the lot of any retiring party President.

The article which we give below is not, however, from an adversary source, but from one politically friendly to the late Administration; but, in introducing it to our readers, we have thought fit to refer to the honorable exception which the FILLMORE Administration forms to the common and indiscriminate obloquy heaped upon Whig Administrations by the Democratic presses and partisans. It is due to frankness for us to say, further, that in copying what we do of the subjoined article, we have confined ourselves to what it so well says in commendation of President FILLMORE and the distinguished men whom he associated with himself in administering the Government. The article coupled with this praise a comparison of the late Administration with the present one, signally unfavorable to the latter. This portion of the article we must apologize to the Statesman for omitting; for, besides the fact that President PIERCE's Administration has hardly passed the threshold of its career, and is not yet of sufficient age to be arraigned at the bar of public opinion, comparisons are not always in good taste. Therefore, though we are far from calling in question what our contemporary has alleged against the existing Administration, we prefer giving what he has so well said in praise of one without the accompanying disparage of the other.

FROM THE NEW YORK STATESMAN.

MILLARD FILLMORE, in consequence of the death of the lamented ZACHARY TAYLOR, became President of the United States July 10, 1850. Mr. FILLMORE, as most readers know, is a self-made man, the son of a clothier, and, after the toil necessary to be encountered by all who reach distinction in the world, became a practising attorney in Western New York. He was soon afterwards (not on account of the exhibition of any dazzling mental gift, but for his common sense, industrious habits, and good judgment) chosen a member of the New York Assembly. Hence he was transferred to Congress, and became chairman of the most important House committee—that of Ways and Means. He was next elected Comptroller of the State of New York; then Vice President of the United States; and the following year, by the providence of God, the cares and perplexities of the highest office in the gift of the people were cast upon him.

The men whom President FILLMORE called around him as Cabinet officers were as follows:

DANIEL WEBSTER, Secretary of State.
THOMAS CORWIN, Secretary of the Treasury.
A. H. H. STUART, Secretary of the Interior.
CHARLES M. CONRAD, Secretary of War.
WILLIAM A. GHAHAN, Secretary of the Navy.
NATHAN K. HALL, Postmaster General.
JOHN J. CRITTENDEN, Attorney General.

The announcement of these names for confirmation by the Senate elicited no extravagant eulogy from the Whig press. The very wise course was pursued of awaiting the deliberate judgment of the country, and submitting the new President, his Cabinet, and the official acts of these several officers to the verdict of the people. Nearly three years remained of the term Gen. TAYLOR was chosen to fill. The time of their inaction to office was one when the clouds and darkness which arose during the intensely exciting debates incident upon the Compromise Measures were not dispersed, and the future was shrouded in doubt and difficulty. The Administration had sufficient time ahead to accomplish great good or perpetrate irreparable mischief; and although the announcement of the foregoing names inspired confidence that President FILLMORE would do all in his power to promote the welfare and sustain the honor of the great people whose Chief Magistrate he had so suddenly and unexpectedly become, there were, so far as our recollection goes, no bolstering assurances by the Whig press in behalf either of the President or those whom he had taken to himself as constitutional advisers.

Time rolled on, and the Administration completed its term of office. It moved along in an unostentatious course to the end; and although its friends neither then nor since claimed for it any special brilliancy, yet, now that it has passed away and its acts become irreversible history, they may truthfully allege that it honorably and successfully discharged the trust committed to it. Under its prudent pacific course, and the patriotic, national spirit which it brought to the administration of public affairs, the angry billows of strife, so apparent over a large portion of the country, rapidly subsided into calm, and the storm passed away. The President and the men whom he called around him quietly proceeded to the discharge of their new duties—bringing to them the industry and common sense so apparent in the earlier Administrations, and continued thus until the end.

The President made no declaration of attachment to the Union, and no announcement of his desire to do all in his power to preserve it—leaving his public acts to be the adding proof either of his treachery or his loyalty to the Constitution and the Laws. Reaching his position with clear hands and an honest heart, endowed with an ample fund of common sense, and taking the office by reason of an occurrence over which he had no control, there were circumstances attending President FILLMORE which afforded strong confidence at the outset that he would honestly and successfully administer our public affairs. That hope was abundantly realized, and the record of it is made. "The past at least is secure." And although violent and scurrilous newspapers of the other side omitted no opportunity to decry and reproach it, the general judgment of the country has pronounced the Administration of President FILLMORE one of the best ever enjoyed. Who does not derive satisfaction in turning to the high-minded, patriotic, and unostentatious Administration of MILLARD FILLMORE?

The people of Rhode Island have put upon record a very decisive expression of disapproval of the proposition of the Radicals to amend the Constitution of that State. The Providence Journal publishes the complete returns of the election, from which it appears that the Convention is voted down by more than two to one. The following is the vote by counties:

Providence county.....	2,407.....	3,950
Newport county.....	445.....	1,324
Washington county.....	413.....	907
Kent county.....	322.....	729
Bristol county.....	191.....	618
	3,778.....	7,618

Judge CRILTON, of Alabama, was re-elected on Tuesday last to a new term in the Supreme Court of that State. The election was made by the Legislature, and, with the exception of one member, the vote was unanimous.

THE NEW YORK DEMOCRACY.

The National Democracy, or Hard Shells, of New York, held a mass meeting at Metropolitan Hall on Wednesday evening, for mutual congratulation upon the triumph of their principles at the recent election. Mayor WESTERVELT presided, with the "assistance" of no less than eighty-eight Vice Presidents and forty-four Secretaries.

That our readers may be properly posted as to the progress of this family quarrel it is necessary to inform them that an Address to the Democracy of the State was adopted, which, after recounting the history of the present division in the party, remarks in relation to the National Administration as follows:

"We gave to the nomination of the present Executive of the United States an earnest and cordial support. We adhered to this belief, notwithstanding the selection of a Cabinet curiously mosaic and strangely in contrast with the popular expectation, because we were unwilling to yield a cherished confidence, and because we relied upon the sincerity of the inaugural declarations. But when in this State we saw the leniency and associations of the Cabinet, all in the direction of the Federal leaders and their coalition allies; when it became obvious that that class of politicians were their assured and confidential advisers; when we saw the National Democracy of the State, whose consistency and devotion throughout the dark periods of our history and all times no man can gainsay, discarded as unworthy of confidence or treated as aliens; when we saw this affiliation with Free-soilism ripen into a manifest interference by Cabinet Ministers in our State politics, in the tacit approval of the acts of violence and outrage by which our Convention was sought to be controlled; and, finally, in the election from official stations under the Government of honored and consistent Democrats; when the assertion of our political rights in State affairs became 'irregularity,' and the rights of the people, of the people, or the danger to all freedom of opinion, all maturity of sentiment, and all liberty of political action, if allowed to sweep on unchecked and unresisted in their career of attempted domination."

Resolutions embracing the spirit of the meeting and the sentiments of the speakers were adopted. They were as follows:

Resolved, That the Democracy of the city of New York congratulate the Democracy of the State and Union upon the magnificent demonstration of Democratic strength manifested in the result of the late election. The victory won over the Free-soil faction is unparalleled in the history of political contests. Without organization, and relying solely upon the old established principles of our party, we met an unscrupulous foe, fully organized, fully armed with our name and our principles, supported by the Cabinet, the Senate, the State Administration at Albany with the whole power of the Federal and State Governments, and re-enforced by large levies of money, wrong from the subordinate officers under both, the result has established the gratifying fact that the Democracy of this State, though unaided in the State the votes of Whig and Free-soil parties, yet far exceed the number of the latter; while in this city, the metropolis of this State alone but of the whole Union, whose fidelity to the Constitution has never faltered, we are able to proclaim, with pride and gratitude, that the Democratic party stands erect in the ascendant, having beaten the Whigs by upwards of 2,000 and the Free-soilers by nearly 7,000 votes.

Resolved, That the late election has demonstrated that it is the earnest wish and conviction of the Democracy of this State that the Senate of the United States, for the preservation of State rights, and for the rebuke of the Cabinet which has dared to violate them, should refuse to confirm the appointment of Heman J. Reelfield as Collector of this Port. And also that the President of the United States should, for his own fame and the success of the Democratic party, dismiss his present Cabinet at his earliest possible convenience.

Letters were read from D. S. DICKINSON, J. B. WELLES, and other gentlemen who could not attend. Commodore STOCKTON made a speech in which he declared his opposition to the interference of the General Government in the concerns of the States. Mr. PIERCE, he said, was elected by National Democrats, and he ought to have selected his Cabinet exclusively from National Democrats; he ought even to have required them to subscribe to a pledge to support the compromises, including the fugitive slave law. He thought President Pierce had been deceived; he was surrounded by traitors; but he was not willing to give him up till he had had an opportunity to discover his errors. The great mistake of the President had been his attempt to conciliate the Free-soilers; and if he would retrace this step and get rid of his bad advisers, he would be restored to the confidence of the National Democratic party.

Mr. F. B. CUTTING and Gen. WALLBRIDGE, members of Congress, and HENRY A. FOSTER, formerly United States Senator, also spoke. The former avowed his belief that Judge Bronson would be the next Governor of New York. The latter said:

"Are the men to whom the Administration have now joined themselves the men by whom Gen. Pierce was elected to his present high office as President of this Union? I think not. I believe he was elected to that position by the National Democracy; and that object would be at the time benefited by them without the aid of the Free-soilers. He was not elected because he was the first choice of the Democracy, for he was not, as Lewis Cass was our first choice, but because he was the nominee of the Baltimore Convention. We wanted him who was defeated in 1848 by a coalition of private foes and public enemies. Another chance we should again fairly before the people, but he was defeated by the third rate in getting the nomination. That nomination the influence of Van Burenites and traitors prevented, but this, however, can never again be done. We are separated, and I trust forever, from all corrupting influences. I want no Free-soilers, no Silly Greys, no Woolly Heads, no Abolitionists. I want a purely National Democratic party, and I trust we now have it."

FROM THE PLAINS.

We have been favored with the following items of news from the Plains:

Fort Laramie has subsided into its wonted state of monotony. The rifles have left; also the Indian Agent, Major Fitzpatrick after making the distribution of presents or goods to be received annually, in accordance with the Horse Creek treaty of 1851, and the annual meeting of the Senate. The Indians have likewise left, seemingly in a peaceful and contented frame of mind. Every thing went off in as quiet a manner as could have been expected or desired. Some of the red brethren have gone buffalo hunting, others to the river, to gather the berries for smoking, and engage in the multifarious pursuits of savage life. An amendment to the treaty of Horse Creek was brought up in council the day before the presents were distributed, wherein it was proposed to cut down the annuities from fifty to ten years, to be extended five years at the pleasure of the President. This was an unexpected amendment, and the proposition, of course, required considerable thinking, much talking, and immense smoking, but was finally acceded to. The recent skirmish between the troops and Minneapocan, of Sioux, was discussed. Old "Bull Tail" and "Red Plume" were the spokesmen, but were by no means warmly received by the chiefs present.

The yield of vegetables at the farm near the post has been pretty fair. The onions turned out extremely well. A substantial bridge had been erected over Louisa river, the accommodation of emigrants and travellers at reasonable rates; but to guard against high water next spring the bridge is to be raised about four feet.

[St. Louis Republican.]

A WOMAN ACCIDENTALLY SHOT.—An inquest was held at New York on Friday upon the body of Catherine Moran, who was shot by one of a gang of boys who were using fire-arms in the vicinity. From the testimony taken it appeared that a number of boys, with fire-arms in their possession, were seen in the yard adjacent to the premises of the deceased about four o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and immediately afterwards a report of a gun was heard. Simultaneously with this report, a gun of a gun who had been engaged in hanging out clothes in the yard of No. 42 West 13th street, was heard to give a deadly scream. The boys, none of whom were known, escaped, and the unfortunate woman expired in about five minutes.

The steamer *Pacific* sailed from New York for Liverpool on Saturday, carrying off ninety passengers and nearly six hundred thousand dollars in specie.

Twelve thousand men are now at work upon the Illinois Central Railroad.

TWO WEEKS LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamer *United States*, from Aspinwall, arrived at New Orleans on the 26th with San Francisco dates of the 1st of November:

She reports that the steamer *Illinois*, bound for New York, had left Aspinwall previous to her sailing with one hundred and fifty passengers and \$1,000,000 in gold dust on freight. The *Nicaragua* steamer, it was reported, had on board more than a million.

The California news is of little interest. The most absorbing questions were the proposal to remove the capital and the election of United States Senator.

The mining news was favorable, many new places having been discovered. Emigration to Australia had ceased. The Sonora Filibustering Expedition attracted some attention, but excited little sympathy. It will doubtless prove a failure.

The steamer *American Eagle*, plying between San Francisco and Sacramento, had burst her boilers, instantly killing six or eight persons and wounding many more. An explosion had also occurred on the steamer *Stockton*, by which disaster two or three lives were lost. The San Francisco Hotel had been entirely consumed by fire.

A serious riot is reported to have occurred at a place called Martinez, in which three Spaniards were killed. Trade in San Francisco and throughout California is represented as exceedingly dull, owing to the immense stock of goods on hand, and all articles except flour have met with a further decline. The crops were turning out fine.

There is nothing of special importance from Oregon. From the Sandwich Islands the news is ten days later. Prince Kamehameha had resigned the office of Prime Minister, and John Young was appointed his successor. The whaling ship *Citizens*, of New Bedford, had been lost in the Arctic Ocean. A portion of the crew were saved after awful suffering.

TEXAS.

We have Galveston dates to the 17th instant. The Legislature had just assembled in annual session. Lt. Gov. HENDERSON is President of the Senate, and H. R. RUNDLELLS Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The principal topic of the Message of Governor BELL is the Pacific Railroad. After stating his conviction that the Southern route is the best, the Governor says:

"From my own knowledge of the country, and from information derived from the most reliable sources, I am convinced that by far the best track will be found by the Memphis, or some other point below on the Mississippi, entering our State about the 32d degree of north latitude, and pursuing that line to El Paso, or its neighborhood; thence in the direction of the head-waters of the Gila River, and down to the mouth of the Colorado, and on to San Diego on the Pacific. This is the route that nature indicates by features so apparent that neither party bias nor sectional interests can conceal them. Even in the most rigorous winters there will be no snow nor ice sufficient to delay or obstruct the progress of commerce, the road, or at any time interrupting its regular communication nearly the entire route; and particularly that portion between the Mississippi and the Rio Grande would pass through a mild and genial climate, over a level, or gently undulating, and rich and beautiful as any on the American continent."

He then proceeds to show the immense advantage which Texas would derive from the construction of the road, and says:

"To secure the construction of this great work through the limits of our State nothing more is wanting, in my opinion, than a liberal donation of our public domain to such a responsible company as may be able to give sufficient guarantee for their ability to commence and complete the same within a reasonable period."

"In view of the fact that none of the proposed routes for the Pacific and Atlantic railway whose survey has been directed by the General Congress will cross this State, I would therefore strongly recommend that steps be taken at an early day to make a survey of such routes within this State as shall be advisable, and that your honorable bodies make a suitable appropriation to cover the expenses connected with the surveys so directed to be made."

The Indian question claims a share of the Governor's attention, and he complains that the General Government has failed to perform its duty in the matter. He continues:

"The principal embarrassment that the Indian Bureau appears to have felt in the conduct of its policy with regard to the Indians of Texas, has been the want of some suitable locality for them within the confines of the State."

The Department having mutually considered the whole field that this important subject presented, and fully conscious of its bearing upon the growing interests of the State at home and abroad, would therefore recommend that your honorable bodies give the necessary authority to the General Government for the temporary occupation of a certain district of the State, as an early and permanent adapted for that purpose, and which will not conflict with existing private claims, nor any contemplated route for the Pacific Railroad; designating the tract or district by metes and bounds; and stipulating that the district occupied shall revert to the State as soon as the General Government shall be able to effect the removal of the Indians for the final disposition of the Indian tribes of Texas."

The estimated number of acres composing the public domain of Texas, after deducting all known claims, is 102,747,301. The State Treasury contains \$3,966,